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**IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appn. Number: 09/405,946  
Filing Date: 09/27/99  
Applicant: Pierre Hilaire  
Appn. Title: Valved Connector with Closure Operated by Axial Movement of the Valve  
Examiner: Manuel Mendez GAU: 3763

Mailed June 10, 2002  
at Sunnyvale, CA

**PROVISIONAL ELECTION**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, District of Columbia 20231

**RECEIVED**

**JUN 18 2002**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 17, 2001, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**STATUS OF THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-18 are subject to restriction.

**PROVISIONAL ELECTION**

Applicant provisionally elects to prosecute invention I, drawn to a valved connector. Currently, claims 1-4, 7-13 and 16-18 read on the elected valved connector invention.

Claims 5, 6, 14, 15 and 19 are withdrawn from consideration. However, applicant reserves the right to resubmit these claims for consideration if a generic claim is allowed. Currently, claims 1 and 13 are generic.